



Fact Sheet

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

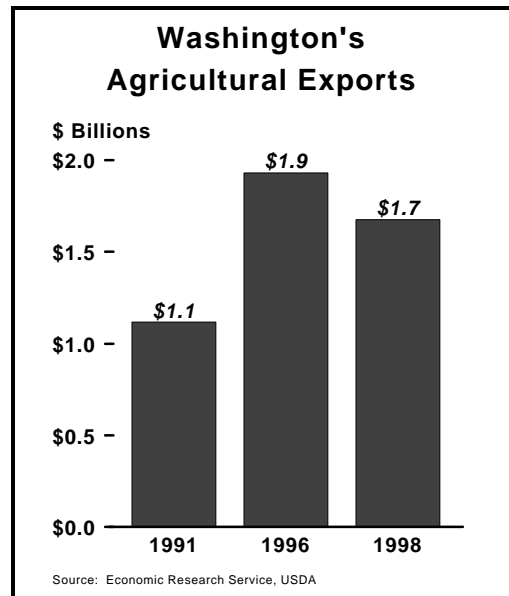
WTO and Agriculture **What's at Stake for Washington?**

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Washington is a major producer and exporter of agricultural, forest, and fishery products. In 1998, the state's total cash receipts from farming reached \$5.2 billion. Wood product shipments totaled \$6 billion in 1996, and commercial fish landings were \$123 million in 1998. Washington ranked eighth among all 50 states in 1998 with agricultural exports of \$1.7 billion in 1998. These exports help boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 25,800 jobs both on and off the farm in food processing, storage, and transportation. Exports are important to Washington's agricultural and state-wide economy. Measured as exports divided by farm cash receipts, the state's reliance on agricultural exports rose from 26 to 32 percent since 1991.

The top five agricultural exports in 1998 were:

- # fruits -- \$469 million
- # vegetables -- \$457 million
- # wheat and products -- \$275 million
- # live animals and red meat -- \$94 million
- # hides and skins -- \$34 million



World demand is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Washington's farmers, ranchers, and food processors are to compete successfully for opportunities of the 21st century, they need *fair trade* and *fair access* to growing global markets.

Washington State Benefits From Trade Agreements

- # Washington, a major wheat producer, benefits under the Uruguay Round from a 33-percent reduction in the quantity of EU wheat receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is expanding its 5,530,000-ton tariff-rate quota by 35,000 tons annually from 1995 to 2000.
- # Under the Uruguay Round, major U.S. trading partners are reducing their tariffs 28 percent on average for wood products.